

Natural Resources Board Advisory Question

20. Baiting and Feeding of Deer

Placing feed results in deer feeding at night which leads to less deer movement during open hunting hours, during the deer hunting season. Additionally, deer feeding concentrates deer on private land creating deer sanctuaries, which reduces the numbers of deer available to hunters on nearby public and private lands.

The Natural Resources Board has adopted rules that suspend the October 4-day antlerless Zone T hunt for two years. The elimination of the October hunt is conditional upon the adequate harvest of deer. Without the October hunt, deer herd control must take place during the regular 9-day gun deer season and a statewide 4-day December antlerless hunt.

The Board feels banning deer baiting and feeding in counties where it is currently allowed, 10 days before and during the 9 day gun deer season, will encourage deer movement during shooting hours and more even distribution of deer available to deer hunters. This recommendation was supported at 10 hearings held around the state in the fall of 2005. Based upon this support, the Board has advanced this question to the Spring Hearings to get an increased amount of public feedback.

Would you support legislation to authorize banning deer baiting and feeding statewide 10 days before and during the 9-day gun deer season, and that such a proposal be submitted to the State Legislature for their passage in time for the 2006 deer season?

20. Yes_____ No_____